

**Subject:** Tmrw, Tues 5/22: LTCC General Meeting + Thurs 5/24: Metro Board Meeting  
**From:** "Little Tokyo Community Council (LTCC)" <info@littletokyo.org>  
**Date:** 5/21/18, 1:11 PM  
**To:** ellenendo@yahoo.com

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## May 2018 Little Tokyo Community Council meetings:

**Please join us at the following LTCC meetings! All are welcome :)**

1. TOMORROW, Tues, 5/22, 11:45am: LTCC General Meeting @ JANM
2. **Wed, 5/23, 3:00pm:** LTCC Marketing & Go Little Tokyo Campaign Meeting @ LT Metro Office
3. Thurs, 5/24, 9am: Join LTCC at the Metro Board Meeting to advocate for Little Tokyo regarding WSAB, the [NEWEST Metro Train coming through Little Tokyo](#) **EVERYONE is needed to tell Metro we are opposed to Routes A, B, C, D, & F!!**

### 1. LTCC General Meeting *Tuesday, May 22nd, 11:45am @ JANM*



Join LTCC for our monthly General Council Meeting on **Tuesday, May 22nd, 11:45am** at the Japanese American National Museum. Japanese translation provided at meetings upon request. Only member organizations may vote. These meetings are open to the public!

#### **Presentations:**

- Allegiance - JACCC & EWP
- LTCC Board Nominations Slate

#### **LTCC WSAB SURVEY:**

If you were not able to make the Little Tokyo Community Forum or other

LTCC meetings to discuss the [new Metro rail line](#), please fill out our survey!

- [Download the paper version](#) & bring to LTCC General Meeting - or -
- [Fill out the online version](#)

Click to download the following:

[May 2018 Agenda](#)

[April 2018 Minutes](#)

To add an agenda item, email us at [info@littletokyo.org](mailto:info@littletokyo.org).

**Details:**

Date: Tuesday, 5/22/18

Location: Japanese American National Museum (100 N Central Ave)

Time: 11:45AM

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**2. LTCC Marketing & Go Little Tokyo Campaign Meeting**  
**Wednesday, May 23rd, 3:00pm @ Metro Little Tokyo Office**



LTCC Marketing Committee - which discusses and guides the LTCC marketing & the [Go Little Tokyo](#) community marketing campaign, alongside other issues - will hold its monthly meeting on **Wednesday, May 23rd, 3pm** at the Regional Connector Little Tokyo Community Office (360 E. 1st Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012). All are welcome!

We will be discussing Delicious Little Tokyo!

**Details:**

Date: Wednesday, 5/23/18

Location: Regional Connector Little Tokyo Community Office (360 E. 1st Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012)

Time: 3:00PM

**Thurs 5/24**  
**Little Tokyo turnout needed**  
**at Metro Board Meeting!**

**URGENT: your presence and voices are needed at this week's Metro Board meeting!!**

**WE NEED YOU to come out to this week's Thursday, 5/24 @ 9am Metro Board Meeting and help make Little Tokyo's voice, interests, and concerns heard!! This meeting are extremely important and KEY to the future of Little Tokyo!**

The Metro Board is deciding which routes on the [West Santa Ana Branch transit line](#) to keep for further study, and which will be discarded. 6 out of 8 of the proposed routes go through Little Tokyo, and it is important that we show up and protect Little Tokyo! [Metro Staff is recommending](#) routes E, F, & G - and we need everyone to speak at the meeting and tell Metro that we

- **are OPPOSED to Route F** because of its impacts to Little Tokyo stakeholders such as Maryknoll/St. Francis Xavier Japanese Catholic Church, Nishi Hongwanji Buddhist Temple, Fukui Mortuary, residents in Mura, Upper Crust Enterprises, and other businesses and residents.

**We are calling on Metro to DISCARD Routes A, B, C, D, and F.** We would support the further study of E, G, and H (but H must connect fully to Union Station). [Click here](#) to download LTCC's letter which states our position, concerns, and interests.

**CAN YOU MAKE THE MEETING?**  
[Let us know, and fill out this form!](#)  
<https://goo.gl/forms/fpktt59qRTueN53w1>

On **Thursday, May 24th, 9am** (at [Metro Headquarters](#), 3rd Floor, Metro Board Room), the **full Metro Board** will meet and consider the staff recommendation and Board Committee decision, and make the final vote and decision on the alignments.

***THIS MEETING IS VERY IMPORTANT.***  
***We need everyone in Little Tokyo to show up!***

If you can't make the meeting (and even if you can), please send your thoughts, comments, and concerns to the Metro Board (ultimate decision-makers!):

**Emails for Metro Board Members and staff:**

jdupontw@aol.com, firstdistrict@bos.lacounty.gov,  
 jhernandez@bos.lacounty.gov, mayor.garcetti@lacity.org,  
 robert.park@lacity.org, seconddistrict@bos.lacounty.gov, markridley-  
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 jacksonm@metro.net, mayor@cityofinglewood.org

**CC the following:**

**Metro Staff:**

wongte@metro.net, cornejol@metro.net, brownju@metro.net

**Other Little Tokyo elected officials and their staff:**

jose.huizar@lacity.org, shawn.kuk@lacity.org, joella.hopkins@lacity.org,  
 nate.hayward@lacity.org,  
 assemblymember.santiago@assembly.ca.gov, jackie.kim@asm.ca.gov

[Attached is a letter template you are welcome to use!](#) Please note that you can send letters both as individuals, as well as an institution - or both.

[CLICK TO DOWNLOAD THE LTCC /  
 LT COMMUNITY TEMPLATE LETTER](#)

Please email any questions to Kristin at [kristin@littletokyo.org](mailto:kristin@littletokyo.org)

## **LTCC Membership Renewal**

The [Little Tokyo Community Council membership drive](#) is here! LTCC has

changed our membership to reflect the calendar year (Jan-Dec), and invite current and new Little Tokyo stakeholders to become members of LTCC and support our work to protect Little Tokyo!

If you paid for the 2017-2018 fiscal year, you are grandfathered into the 2018 year, but are still welcome to pay again if you want :). Otherwise, please consider renewing or becoming a member! Please see a **message from our LTCC Board Chair, Chris Komai**, below.

[Download the letter here!](#)

[Download the 2018 Membership Form here!](#)



**Little Tokyo Community Council**  
106 1/2 Judge John Aiso Street, Suite 172  
Los Angeles, CA 90012  
213.293.5822 | [info@littletokyola.org](mailto:info@littletokyola.org)

Dear Friend of Little Tokyo:

As the Chair for the Little Tokyo Community Council (LTCC) Board of Directors, I wanted to elicit your continuing support for our organization and for our persistent efforts to protect and nurture our 130+-year-old neighborhood. Specifically, we ask you to renew your LTCC membership, or for you to join today. With your backing, LTCC can ensure that Little Tokyo's interests will always be represented in dealings with government agencies, private developers and adjacent communities.

Today, Little Tokyo faces challenges as critical as any time since World War II. The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) continues its construction of the Regional Connector light rail system with its staging area and Little Tokyo/Arts District station site in the heart of our community. The street closures at times have disrupted our local businesses, religious institutions and nonprofit organizations. LTCC helped to negotiate mitigations from Metro, including funding for the marketing/information project, Go Little Tokyo. That contract with LTCC was just extended until 2021 when the train line becomes operational.

But, Metro is planning another new line, the West Santa Ana Branch, which could run north on Alameda to Union Station and subject our community to more disruptions. Simultaneously, the City of Los Angeles has developed its Civic Center Master Plan that includes major construction across from the Union Center for the Arts. The City intends to open up its First Street North parking lot, behind the Little Tokyo Historic District, to developers. New mixed-use complexes have taken over the block between 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> and San Pedro and Los Angeles Street where the Nisei Week carnival and Tofu Festival formerly were held. Some of new businesses there have no connection to our historic community and little interest in Little Tokyo.

To meet those challenges and much more, the LTCC Board determined that a full-time staff member was needed. In February of 2017, LTCC hired Kristin Fukushima, the former Project Manager for Sustainable Little Tokyo (SLT), as its Managing Director. Since then, Fukushima and LTCC have:

- In early 2017, organized community support to halt the preservation of the Parker Center building, the former LAPD headquarters, which symbolized the City's eminent domain seizure of a major portion of Little Tokyo in the 1950s, and represented Little Tokyo at the Civic Center Master Plan community advisory council;

- In early 2017, finalized a settlement agreement with the ETCO Homes developer that provided cash payments to local businesses to help mitigate the effects of the closure of a crucial parking lot;

- In October of 2017, sponsored and partnered with local business owners to organize Haunted Little Tokyo, a new community Halloween event that drew thousands;

- In June of 2017, teamed with other community groups to express the community's opposition to the West Santa Ana Branch's proposal to build aerial tracks down Alameda and to protect community institutions such as Maryknoll (St. Francis Xavier Chapel) and Nishi Hongwanji Buddhist Temple; and

The Little Tokyo Community Council is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) community coalition representing the interests of Little Tokyo, with membership from businesses, residents, community organizations, religious institutions, and other vested stakeholders in the Little Tokyo community.



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-Since 2015, supported the efforts of the Go for Broke National Education Center to renew its land lease with the City, and continued lobbying to ensure the City's Request for Proposal for the First Street North property includes the best interests of Little Tokyo.

LTCC continues to advance Sustainable Little Tokyo (SLT), which seeks to embed sustainable economic, environmental and cultural elements into Little Tokyo's future. It monitors a series of government projects that affect the businesses, streets, landscape and public art in our community. Its general meetings have become a respected venue for representatives of the Little Tokyo to discuss current issues, express their opinions and share their activities and events.

By renewing your membership or becoming a member of LTCC, you enable our organization to maintain a constant presence in the civic affairs of downtown Los Angeles. More importantly, you join with other organizations, businesses and individuals in seeking to protect Little Tokyo and strengthen its future.

The Little Tokyo Community Council is moving from a fiscal year to a calendar year financial structure. If you paid for membership after July 2017, your membership will be extended until the end of 2018 – although you are welcome to pay again for the 2018 year. Otherwise, our annual membership will now coincide with the calendar year.

Thank you for your continued support. Together, we can make a difference.

Sincerely,

Chris Komai  
Little Tokyo Community Council Board Chair

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You can apply for membership [online](https://littletokyola.org/members/) (<https://littletokyola.org/members/>), or download this [form](#) and return it to us by [email](#), mail (106 ½ Judge John Aiso Street, Suite 172, Los Angeles, 90012), or at the next General Meeting (4th Tuesdays, 11:45am @ JANM).

For more information, check out our membership page!  
<https://littletokyola.org/members/>

## Follow us online!

LTCC has just launched a [blog](#) and a [Facebook](#) presence! We are slowly rolling out both, but you can get in early and start following us now!

Our website is also back in action!! Check out the new site at  
[www.littletokyola.org](http://www.littletokyola.org)

LTCC Blog: <https://littletokyocommunity.tumblr.com/>  
LTCC Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/LTCommunityCouncil/>



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Little Tokyo Community Council  
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